

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A process for thermally treating a light alloy casting, comprising a step of: heating under atmospheric pressure a light alloy casting up to a solid solution range and maintaining it at such heating temperature T; and a step of quenching the light alloy casting through a cooling medium while pressurizing it, wherein the step of quenching is carried out under the application of pressure P in a range of $10,000 \text{ psi} < P \leq 29,000 \text{ psi}$.

2. **(Original)** A process for thermally treating a light alloy casting according to claim 1, wherein the heating temperature T is set at $T > T_s$, wherein T_s represents a solidus-line temperature for a light alloy forming the light alloy casting.

Claims 3-4. **(Canceled)**